

the order of the applications received in the Court, and if any change is to be made in that order that must be done with the special permission of the Court. Thus one way in which corruption in the lower ranks of the service can be reduced is to minimise the occasions when there might be any opportunity for corruption. That can be done, and, as far as possible, that is being done, by means of rules and circulars.

Some members who made representations in this matter also stated that the low salaries that are now given to some of these officers in the lower grades must contribute to the existence of corruption. It cannot be said that is a view that is groundless. It has been the policy of Government gradually to increase the salaries of the lowest paid employees in the service. But, as I said in reply to another representation on that subject, we cannot ignore the limitations of finance. Subject to that limitation, Government have been steadily improving the salaries of their employees in the lower grades.

185. Needs of the Ezhava Community.

MR. S. KRISHNAN ASAN (*Nominated*) said that the Ezhava Regulation did not apply to Misradaya Ezhavas at all and that they were not intended to be affected by it. Difficulties had arisen on account of the confusion of *dayam* and *vazhi*. A Makkathaya Ezhava was not the same as a Makkavazhi Ezhava. In fact, there were only Makkavazhi Ezhavas. The Makkathaya Ezhavas were really the Misradaya Ezhavas, among whom self-acquired properties were divided between sons and *seshakars* on the death of the proprietor.

Although the preamble of the Regulation stated that it was expedient to define and amend the law of marriage, succession and family management among the Ezhavas, certain provisions of the Regulation, definitely showed that it was not intended to be applied to all sections of the community. The Regulation left the Misradaya Ezhavas free to follow the customary law that had been in vogue among them from time immemorial. But in spite of the clearness of the Regulation, enemies of the Misradaya Ezhava community and certain social reformers were attempting to interpret the Regulation in such a way as to make it applicable to the Misradayis. It was alleged that, if a Misradaya Ezhava family wanted to follow their time-honoured customs, they should apply to Government under Section 33 (1) of the Regulation. It was rather surprising that certain courts of law were also inclined to give countenance to that view. That interpretation was sure to cause considerable hardship to the members of the Misradaya community. Hence it was highly necessary that Government should declare, by a proclamation or a press communique, that the Misradaya Ezhavas were exempt from the application of the Regulation.

Ezhava boys should be admitted to all recognised schools in the State.

Ezhavas should be given adequate representation in the various departments, especially in the Judicial, Excise and Land Revenue Departments, where the representation of the community was lamentably poor.

In conclusion, the member gave expression to the unfailing loyalty of his community to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Krishnan Asan, മഹാരാണിറീജൻറ തിരു മനസ്സിലേനേക്കു നിങ്ങളുടെ സമുദായത്തിനുള്ളതായ രാജഭക്തി നിങ്ങൾ പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചതിനെ തിരുമനസ്സറിയിക്കാം.

നിങ്ങളുടെ വിവേചനത്തിലടങ്ങിയശേഷം ഭാഗങ്ങൾക്കു ഒടുവിൽ മറുപടി പറയാം.

[I shall convey to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent the sentiments of loyalty which you have given expression to on behalf of your community.]

I shall give a reply to the other points of your representation presently.]

DEWAN'S REPLY: When some members of this Assembly made representations here regarding the question of communal representation in the public service, I told them that I did not intend giving a separate reply to each member and that I should be giving a general reply at the end of all the representations on that subject. My present reply is to those members.

You have each on behalf of his own community represented that members of the community to which you belong are not adequately represented in the public service. It will not be very difficult to show that some of the pictures of the present condition of things given in those representations are overdrawn and that some of the demands made in the representations are extravagant. But it cannot be denied that underlying them all is a feeling of dissatisfaction with the existing state of affairs. Mainly on account of historical reasons, the members of some communities could not till recently muster the qualifications necessary for admission into the public service. Within the last twenty-five years or so, however, special facilities for educational advance have been afforded, and members of those communities with the necessary educational qualifications have been coming forward in larger and larger numbers as applicants for employment in Government service. They claim some preferential treatment on account of the circumstance that they have entered the field late. The Government have also felt that they should for some time be recruited more liberally to the service, of course, without detriment to efficiency, and have issued orders to heads of departments to give effect to that view. The main complaint that you have voiced here is that these orders are not being carried out in the spirit that prompted their issue, and you have pointed out that the orders on this subject must be made more definite. The Government have taken the matter up for earnest consideration and hope to devise some means of removing the complaint and making the rules definite enough for easy application.